

Meets Artist at Unveiling Ceremony in Washington

(Washington, DC) Today, Congressman Alcee L. Hastings (D-Miramar) announced that Ms. Tamzn Pienaar of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida has won the 29th Annual Congressional Art Competition for Florida's 23rd

district. Pienaar's oil painting, a piece entitled "Self Portrait," was selected to represent the 23rd district in Washington for the next year.

"Tamzn's self portrait was truly a standout. Among the many submissions that I received this year, hers was the most striking," said Hastings.

Pienaar, a senior at Stranahan High School in Ft. Lauderdale, studies art under her teacher Nancy Green. She describes "Self Portrait" as a study of her eating habits and depicts herself sucking spaghetti from a bowl in the painting.

In addition to winning the district art competition, Pienaar traveled with her mother, Geraldine, to Washington, DC in order to attend an unveiling ceremony hosted by the House of Representatives on June 17, 2010. "Self Portrait," along with the artwork of other national winners, will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year.

"With art programs being cut throughout schools in Florida, it is imperative that we continue to support the arts in education. The Congressional Art Competition has served as a national canvas for young artists to display their creativity for the past 29 years and is an excellent way for Congress to encourage the nurturing of their artistic talent," further noted Hastings.

"I congratulate Tamzn on her distinguished achievement and wish her the best of luck in her studies and future artistic endeavors."

Hastings' Art Competition is held annually and is open to any student attending a school located in the 23rd Congressional district, which includes parts of Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie, and Hendry Counties. Artwork that can be submitted range from paintings, drawings, collages, prints, mixed media, computer generated art, and photography.

Students and teachers interested in learning more about the Congressional Art Competition should contact Hastings' Fort Lauderdale Office at (954) 733-2800.

Congressman Alcee L. Hastings is Vice Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, a senior member of the House Rules Committee, and Co-Chairman of the U.S. Helsinki Commission.

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